जयपुर से अमृतसर के लिए रेलगाडी

1939. **श्री रामजीलाल**: क्या रल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने जयपुर से अमृतसर के लिए 15 अगस्त, 1997 से रेलगाडी चलाने की घोषणा की थी;

(ख) क्या इसे रेलवे टाइम टेबिल में भी दर्शा दिया गया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस रेलगाडी को कब तक शुरू किया जाएगा; और

(घ) इसमें विलंब के क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईल): (क) जी हां;

(ख) जी हां;

(ग) और (घ) 9771/9772 जयपुर-अमृतसर एक्सप्रेस (सप्ताह में दो दिन) को 7.2.98 से रेवाडी-हिसार-भंटिडा-फिरोजपुर-जालंधर कैंट के रास्ते पहले ही शुरू कर दिया गया है।

TENDER FOR PROCUREMENT OF RAILWAY WAGONS

1940. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHER JEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a tender for procurement of 27,000 railway wagons in terms of FWU was opened in September, 1997;

(b) if so, the approximate value of the tender;

(c) whether a composite bid had been invited for the above without inviting pre-qualifications / technical bids separately; if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) how many bidders against the above tender had no experience of sup plying wagons before?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approximate value of the contracts issued against the tender was Rs. 470 crores excluding free supply items.

(c) Yes, Sir. Separate bids" were not considered necessary. Moreover, tender was required to be settled in time.

(d) Six.

Punctulaty of Trains and safety of passengers

1941. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the punctuality of the trains and safety of passengers have been affected at large after the present Government took over;

(b) if so, the details of trains which could not maintain punctuality during the past three months with reasons therefor;

(c) the number of various incidents held in trains during the same period; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide safe journey to its commuters and punctuality of trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha.

(d) The following steps have been taken to provide safe journey to the commuters and punctuality of trains:—

(i) Quality C & W examination of the coaches at C & W depot.

(ii) Improvement in track circuiting on running lines especially at stations in 'A' & 'B' routes.

(iii) counselling of the running and Station staff to improve Safety awareness through publication of Safety posters, hand books and Safety bulletins in conducting Safety Seminars.

(iv) Safety drives are lunched at regular intervals to guard against the unsafe practices as well as to create the sense of